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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

25X1

COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT Propaganda Talk by Becher

DATE DISTR. 3 May 1955

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
ACQUIREDDATE OF
INFO.NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

25X1

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

On 20 January 1955, a conference of leading functionaries of the
so-called "Kulturstaatsbrigaden" (propaganda squads) took place
at the GDR Ministry of Culture. Johannes A. Becher was in the chair.
The conference was also attended by Gerhart Eisler, former propaganda
chief of East Germany. In his speech, Becher said that important
political events may be expected in the near future: the USSR would
offer the GDR a generous peace treaty which could be ratified
quickly; West Germany would be given the chance of participating
in this peace treaty. At the request of the East German government,
the USSR would leave only security forces in Germany. Becher asked
the propaganda squads to propagate the German solution as proposed
by the USSR.

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